No. F. 49 (15)-EV/59

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

(Department of Expenditure)

New Delhi-2, the 21st May, 1959.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub :—Delegation of powers to Ministries and Heads of Departments to allow refund of medical expenses in relaxation of Medical Attendance Rules.

At present all cases where Central Government servants and members of their families receive medical attendance/treatment in emergent circumstances from sources other than those from whom it is permissible under the relevant Medical Attendance Rules, are referred to the Ministries of Finance/Health for allowing reimbursement of the Medical expenses by special sanction. Such cases are referred to the Ministries of Finance/Health irrespective of the amount involved. In the past it has been noticed that in the majority of such cases medical attendance and/or treatment were received either from Railway/Military/Factory/Local Board (District and Municipal Boards, Local Funds and Panchayats) hospitals or from doctors attached thereto, or from private practitioners, due to the non-existence of any Government/recognised hospital within a reasonable distance from the place where the patient fell ill. With a view to cutting out delays in the settlement of such cases caused by frequent references to the Ministries of Finance and Health, the President has been pleased to delegate powers to all Ministries/Heads of Departments to allow refund of medical expenses upto a maximum limit of Rs. 50 in each case where they are satisfied that although refund is not permissible under the strict application of the various Medical Attendance Rules, the circumstances of the case warranted medical attendance/treatment being had from hospitals and doctors mentioned above, in the absence Government/recognised hospital or doctor within a reasonable distance from the place where the patient fell ill. The reasonableness of the distance may be determined with reference to the nature and severity of the ailment in each case. Further, refunds as above may be allowed only to the extent admissible under the relevant Medical Attendance Rules and subject to the general spirit of these Rules being observed. Doubtful cases should continue to be referred to the Ministries of Finance/Health.

2. In so far as persons serving in the Indian Audit and Accounts Department are concerned, these orders have been issued after consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor General.

(Sd.) R. S. BERY,

Dy. Secy.-to the Govt. of India.